

Message Text

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47

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ACDA-05 DPW-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 EUR-12

/073 W

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O P 031951Z FEB 75 ZFF-4

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 393

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

USDEL JEC PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 647

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICRC, PARM, VS, VN, PFOR

SUBJ: PRG ISSUE AT LAW OF WAR CONFERENCE: AUSTRALIAN POSITION

REF: CANBERRA728

1. AUSTRALIAN DEFECTION ON THE APPLICABILITY OF RULE 32 IS A MAJOR BLOW, FOR THIS WILL BE CRUCIAL VOTE AND WILL BE CLOSE. USDEL OFFICER CALLED ON DEPUTY HEAD OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION, R.A. ROWE, AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 3, WHO CONFIRMED THE BAD NEWS. USDEL OFFICER EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT AUSTRALIA NO LONGER BEHIND US ON THIS IMPORTANT VOTE AND EXPLAINED US POSITION ON PROCEDURE. ROWE SAID DELEGATION PLANNED TO CABLE CANBERRA EVENING FEBRUARY 3 OUTLINING DAY'S EVENTS, AND FACT THAT USDEL OFFICER MADE REPRESENTATION WOULD BE INCLUDED. HE COULD OFFER NO ENCOURAGEMENT, BUT EXPECTED A RETURN CABLE FROM CANBERRA MORNING FEBRUARY 4. THIS WOULD EITHER CONFIRM THE SWITCH IN VOTE OR GIVE NEW IN-
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STRUCTIONS.

2. WE WOULD LIKE TO THINK THERE IS STILL HOPE.
WE WILL MONITOR AUSTRALIAN POSTION FROM HERE. CAN
CANBERRA MAKE NEW APPROACH? THE VOTE WILL PROBABLY
COME IN LESS THAN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS.
DALE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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